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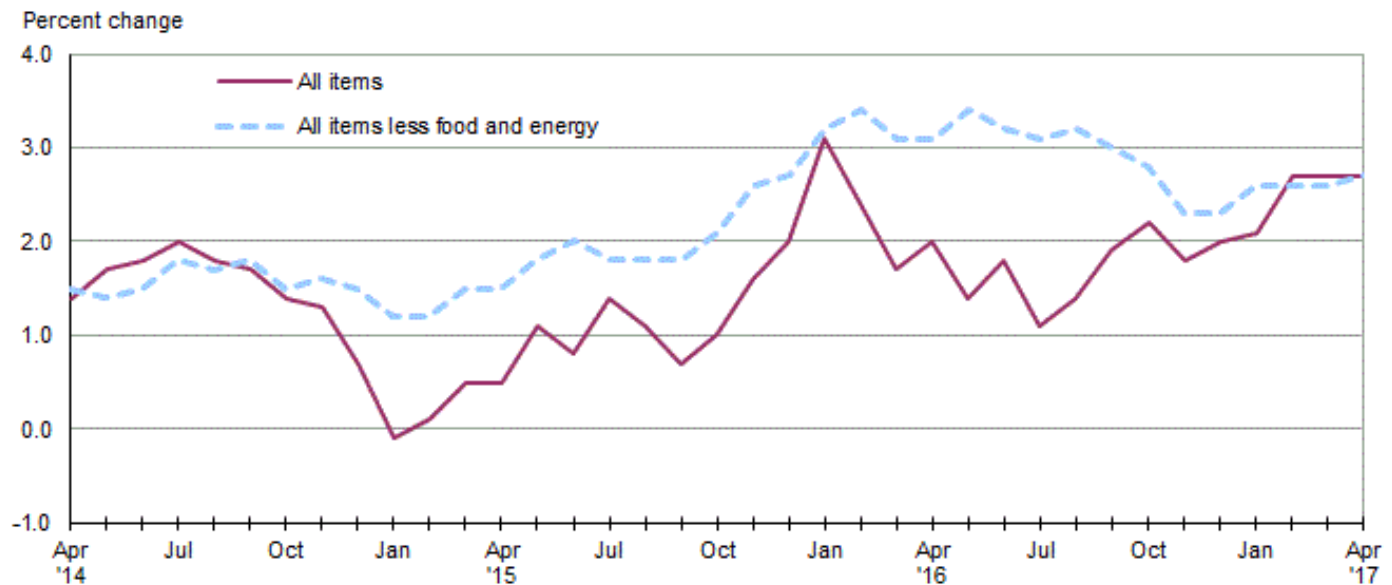
## Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area — April 2017

**Area prices were up 0.2 percent over the past month, up 2.7 percent from a year ago**

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), edged up 0.2 percent in April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A.](#)) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the April increase was influenced by higher prices for other goods and services and recreation. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 2.7 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A.](#)) Energy prices rose 5.6 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 2.7 percent over the year. (See [table 1.](#))

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles, April 2014–April 2017**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### Food

Food prices edged down 0.1 percent for the month of April. (See [table 1.](#)) Prices for food at home decreased 1.0 percent, but prices for food away from home advanced 0.9 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 1.0 percent. Prices for food away from home increased 3.8 percent since a year ago, but prices for food at home decreased 1.2 percent

## Energy

The energy index advanced 0.3 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for electricity (1.1 percent). Prices for natural gas service decreased 0.6 percent and prices for gasoline edged down 0.2 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 5.6 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (7.3 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service advanced 5.3 percent, and prices for electricity rose 2.4 percent during the past year.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy edged up 0.2 percent in April. Higher prices for other goods and services (5.2 percent) and recreation (0.8 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for apparel (-2.9 percent) and shelter (-0.1 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 2.7 percent. Components contributing to the increase included other goods and services (5.3 percent) and shelter (4.7 percent). Partly offsetting the increases were price declines in apparel (-4.1 percent) and education and communication (-2.7 percent).

**Table A. Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)**

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual
January.....	0.8	2.1	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	2.1
February.....	0.5	2.1	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	2.7
March.....	1.0	2.0	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.3	2.7
April.....	0.0	1.5	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4	-0.1	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.2	2.7
May.....	0.1	1.6	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.4		
June.....	-0.4	1.6	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8	-0.3	0.8	0.1	1.8		
July.....	-0.1	1.9	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.1		
August.....	0.6	2.3	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.1	0.0	1.4		
September.....	0.4	2.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7	-0.4	0.7	0.2	1.9		
October.....	0.8	3.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.2		
November.....	-1.0	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.8		
December.....	-0.7	1.9	0.0	1.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0		

**The May 2017 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County is scheduled to be released on June 14, 2017.**

## Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17\\_a.htm](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties in the State of California.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Apr. 2017	Apr. 2016	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017
<b>Expenditure category</b>						
All items .....	253.815	254.525	254.971	2.7	0.5	0.2
All items (1967=100) .....	749.881	751.980	753.297	-	-	-
Food and beverages .....	253.438	254.571	254.321	1.0	0.3	-0.1
Food .....	253.592	254.820	254.444	1.0	0.3	-0.1
Food at home .....	254.014	256.216	253.671	-1.2	-0.1	-1.0
Food away from home .....	249.263	249.274	251.573	3.8	0.9	0.9
Alcoholic beverages .....	236.171	235.876	237.450	0.6	0.5	0.7
Housing .....	285.754	285.975	286.168	4.3	0.1	0.1
Shelter .....	327.217	327.750	327.432	4.7	0.1	-0.1
Rent of primary residence(1) .....	342.343	343.624	344.279	5.1	0.6	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(1)(2) .....	338.967	339.317	340.072	4.7	0.3	0.2
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2) .....	338.948	339.298	340.053	4.7	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities .....	304.509	303.031	306.090	3.4	0.5	1.0
Household energy .....	262.666	260.921	263.247	3.1	0.2	0.9
Energy services(1) .....	261.069	259.884	261.715	3.0	0.2	0.7
Electricity(1) .....	301.917	302.157	305.458	2.4	1.2	1.1
Utility (piped) gas service(1) .....	212.696	208.109	206.940	5.3	-2.7	-0.6
Household furnishings and operations .....	116.737	116.522	117.355	1.4	0.5	0.7
Apparel .....	110.245	112.197	108.911	-4.1	-1.2	-2.9
Transportation .....	195.460	197.847	198.562	2.7	1.6	0.4
Private transportation .....	190.716	193.043	193.114	2.8	1.3	0.0
Motor fuel .....	227.233	233.940	233.584	7.4	2.8	-0.2
Gasoline (all types) .....	222.224	228.870	228.523	7.3	2.8	-0.2
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3) .....	222.491	229.217	228.867	7.3	2.9	-0.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3) (4) .....	213.229	219.494	219.006	7.6	2.7	-0.2
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3) .....	213.067	219.062	218.778	7.2	2.7	-0.1
Medical care .....	465.127	465.952	467.445	4.2	0.5	0.3
Recreation(5) .....	106.204	106.272	107.131	-0.2	0.9	0.8
Education and communication(5) .....	143.463	142.117	141.997	-2.7	-1.0	-0.1
Other goods and services .....	389.313	390.346	410.527	5.3	5.4	5.2
<b>Commodity and service group</b>						
All items .....	253.815	254.525	254.971	2.7	0.5	0.2
Commodities .....	174.964	176.116	176.498	0.8	0.9	0.2
Commodities less food & beverages .....	134.087	135.189	135.808	0.6	1.3	0.5
Nondurables less food & beverages .....	175.166	177.662	178.728	2.3	2.0	0.6
Durables .....	93.819	93.543	93.721	-2.4	-0.1	0.2
Services .....	323.995	324.306	324.808	3.6	0.3	0.2
<b>Special aggregate indexes</b>						
All items less medical care .....	244.649	245.352	245.756	2.5	0.5	0.2
All items less shelter .....	221.681	222.476	223.272	1.4	0.7	0.4
Commodities less food .....	138.443	139.522	140.174	0.6	1.3	0.5
Nondurables .....	215.103	217.027	217.511	1.6	1.1	0.2
Nondurables less food .....	180.865	183.253	184.361	2.1	1.9	0.6
Services less rent of shelter(2) .....	328.386	328.376	330.104	2.1	0.5	0.5
Services less medical care services .....	311.735	312.048	312.469	3.5	0.2	0.1
Energy .....	241.676	245.165	245.837	5.6	1.7	0.3
All items less energy .....	256.658	257.164	257.596	2.5	0.4	0.2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017	Apr. 2017	Apr. 2016	Feb. 2017	Mar. 2017
All items less food and energy .....	257.518	257.903	258.472	2.7	0.4	0.2

Footnotes(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.